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A REARING CAGE FOR ORTHOPTERA

By C. C. Wilson, Division of Cereal and Forage Insects,
Bureau of Entomology, U. S. Department of Agriculture

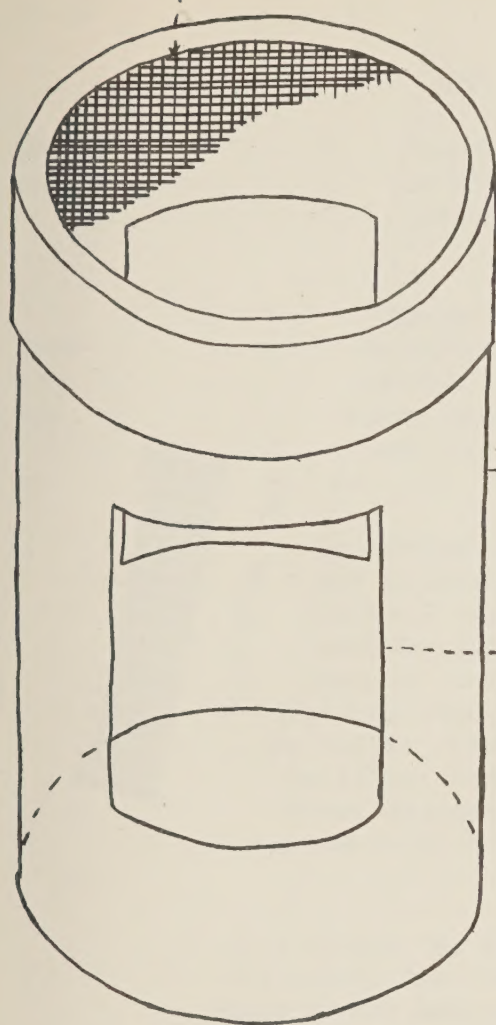
In previous years difficulty has been experienced in the rearing of Orthoptera in screen cages and glass vials in the insectary laboratory of the Bureau of Entomology at Sacramento, Calif. Many of the nymphs would cling to the screen sides of the cages and refuse to feed. Consequently they soon died, most of them in the first instar. A new type of cage was constructed this year, which has proved successful in the rearing of Melanoplus marginatus Scudder. This cage was a cylindrical cardboard carton (quart size), having windows of cellophane 3-1/4 by 2 inches (fig. 1), a top of 18-mesh screen wire, and bottom of 16-gage galvanized iron. The bottom (fig. 2) was 2 inches deep, with a small inner cylinder 1 inch in diameter fitted into the center, and the bottom corked. The inner cylinder was used as a receptacle for water and green alfalfa and the outer cylinder for soil. The bottom was fitted snugly into the cardboard carton. This cage proved satisfactory for rearing work after the grasshoppers had reached the third instar. Nymphs of the first and second instars were reared in 25 m m glass vials with a lid of 18-mesh screen netting.

Explanation of Illustrations

Figure 1.--Top and sides of rearing cage.

Figure 2.--Galvanized-iron bottom of rearing cage.

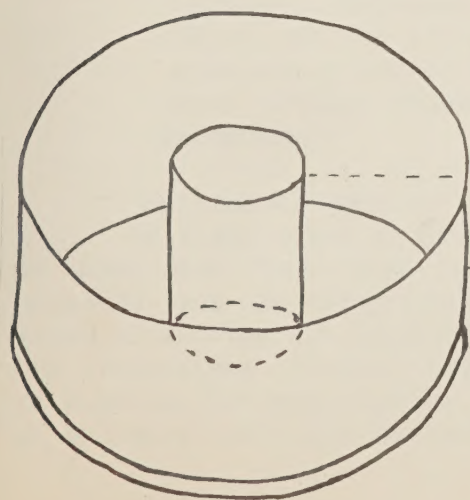
18 Mesh Copper Wire



Standard Cardboard
1 Quart Container

2" X 3" Windows Covered
With Cellophane

1



1" Dia X 2" Deep

3 1/4 Dia X 2" Deep

Rolled Edge

2

